

REMARKS

Claims 27-33, all the claims present in this application, were rejected on the ground of double patenting in view of claims 1-4 of parent U.S. Patent 6,832,131. Claims 27-31 and 33 also were rejected as allegedly being indefinite.

To overcome the double patenting rejection, applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer together with the disclaimer fee and the usual Statement under 37 CFR 3.73 (b).

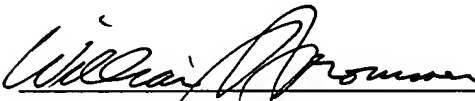
Additionally, claims 27, 31 and 33 are amended to satisfy the objection raised in the Office Action under reply. These claims now recite: "... a method ..." rather than "the method."

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 27, 31 and 33 are in proper form, and reconsideration of the objection thereto is respectfully requested. These claims, as the Examiner properly found, are directed to a method that is carried out "in a legged robot apparatus" having particular structure and particular features. The "robot apparatus" is recited in the preamble of the claims and establishes the environment in which the claimed method is performed. As such, it is submitted that claims 27, 31 and 33 are in proper form and the word "method," as used in these claims, is essential and should not be deleted.

Accordingly, it is submitted that this application now is in condition for allowance. The issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our
Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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